

Regular Meeting Minutes

March 2, 2017

Mayor Dryden called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Council members were all present except Mike Clark. Solicitor James Ong and Fiscal Officer Kathy Norman were in attendance.

Motion (1) to approve the minutes from February 19, 2017 was made by Patty Johnson, 2nd by Susan Edwards.

GUESTS:

Scott Belacastro, Trebel, Inc. was present. He said that the market for Gas and Electric rates are good right now and being pushed further by the warm winter weather we've been having. He expects to bid for the rates this month and have them available in early April. AEP rates will be changing June 3rd. He suggests that Council start by understanding their current contracts and rates and when they expire. The Village accounts for Gas are not under a binding contract and can be changed at any time. The Village accounts for Electric rates expire at the end of March 2017. Mr. Belacastro will send contracts to the Village prior to the expiry date of the electric contract so it can be decided in the time needed. He will bring the bids to the council meeting on April 20, 2017 for the Electric Aggregation Rates.

Radonna Moreland was present. She discussed feral cats with the Council. She would like to do a fundraiser to raise money to get the cats spayed, neutered and returned. It would cost approximately \$10 per cat. She was requesting support from council and possibly assistance with traps.

Tim Still was present. He brought a document for council showing the ODOT District 11 2017 Construction Projects.

Jim Dickey was present for the Thornwood Park Preservation Committee. He said the Committee is doing a fund raiser for a Wheelchair swing for the park. A steak dinner and horse race will be held at the AIC Club on March 25, 2017. Dwight Johns has agreed to make the swing for the park. Mr. Dickey also requested dirt be brought in for alongside the basket ball court as it needs built up.

DEPARTMENTS:

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Chief McConnell was present. He said that the Fire Department received a matching grant for 4 new portable radios from the Division of Forestry. He said that the grant was for \$4822.20 and the Village would match the amount for a total of \$9,644.40. Motion (2) for the Fire Department to purchase 4 new portable radios and send the invoice for the matching grant funds from the Division of Forestry made by Greg DiDonato, 2nd by Patty Johnson. Motion carried.

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Greg DiDonato requested that Chief McConnell provide the Village a financial report for the Volunteer Fire Department. Chief McConnell will give the documents to Brenda Shaver, Deputy Clerk.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Chief Todd Beeman was present. He informed Council about the new Anonymous Tip Line that is now available on the Village Web site. (www.villageofdennison.com) He said that residents are now able to send tips to the police department directly and remain anonymous if they choose to do so.

Chief Beeman informed Council that the SUV Cruiser was going to be needing tires and to expect a quote of at least \$400. He also said that Sergeant Teddy Boitnott and Ptl. Cage Sommers have successfully served their probation periods. Motion (3) to remove Sergeant Teddy Boitnott from probation made by Greg DiDonato, 2nd by Helen Borland. Motion carried. Motion (4) to remove Ptl. Cage Sommers from his probation made by Kene Edwards, 2nd by Patty Johnson. Motion carried.

Chief Beeman informed Council that he had discussed a K-9 Officer program with the Finance Committee and was requesting permission to proceed. The COPS grant will open in April and it would provide 75% of the benefits and wages for a full-time K-9 officer for 36 months. The officer would be required to attend a 13 week training program and required to sign an agreement to stay employed by the Village for at least 3 years. Motion (5) to allow the Police Chief to proceed with the K-9 officer program made by Greg DiDonato, 2nd by Helen Borland. Motion carried. Greg DiDonato wanted it understood that the officer would not be hired as a full-time officer unless and until grant funding was secured. If the COPS grant was not awarded other grants would have to be secured for the hiring of the officer on full-time basis for the K-9 program.

Kene Edwards asked Chief Beeman about the Crown Victoria Cruiser and was informed that it is out being checked over and that it would be used as the K-9 vehicle.

ZONING DEPARTMENT:

Dan Shaver was present. He said that the garage at 411 Fuhr Street had been torn down and that the Street Department also has 3 hours of work involved in cleaning up around the site. The property taxes will be assessed a fee of \$350 for those hours.

The building at 520 N. 2nd Street is in the process of being changed to the Village's ownership. The fire department will use the building for training until it is torn down. They will not be burning it.

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The property at 701 Center Street will be cleaned up by Bridges Excavating and the properties of 719 N. 4th and 917 Court Street are listed in the paper for release of ownership and must run for 30 days unless the owner is located.

Dan Shaver said he has secured plexi-glass for the window in the Administrative office at a cost of \$65 and will get it installed soon.

The former Auction Barn property on Logan Street will be cleaned and fixed. The owner plans to tear it down within the next 2 years.

Motion (6) to accept the department reports for the Police Department for January and February 2017 and Fire Department for February 2017 made by Greg DiDonato, 2nd by Kene Edwards. Motion carried.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT:

Kathy Norman, Fiscal Officer, was present. She presented bills in the amount of \$66,043.23, most of which is a payment on the Fire Truck. Motion (7) to pay the bills when funds become available made by Greg DiDonato, 2nd by Susan Edwards. Motion carried.

The Revenue Budget is final and ready to send to the Auditor. The Budget will be brought to the March 16, 2017 council meeting. The money has been deposited in an Escrow account for the Sherman Street Project and designated bills will be paid from the account when they come due. Notes from the Hinkle system have been uploaded to the State system and that should help with our audit. The notes from the Hinkle system was at a cost of \$300.

OLD BUSINESS:

Council will appoint Tim Still to serve the remainder of Pat Cahaney's term on the Twin City Water and Sewer Board. That term expires on October 1, 2018. A letter will be sent to notify the Twin City Water Board of the appointment. Motion (8) to appoint Tim Still to the Twin City Water Board to represent the Village of Dennison made by Greg DiDonato, 2nd by Susan Edwards. Motion carried.

Mayor Jeff Dryden extended sympathy on behalf of the Village to Greg DiDonato for the passing of his father this morning.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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Helen Borland – none

Kene Edwards – would like the small PanHandle Towpath Trail sign installed at the start of the walking trail on Grant Street. Also, AEP has been driving over the sidewalks at the Grant Street location and the sidewalks will need repaired or replaced.

Susan Edwards – Asked about the tree service trucks parked at the PHAC Park and if they are doing any additional work for the Village. They have taken down several trees but more could be identified and removed before they leave the Village.

Patty Johnson – Asked if the gaming machines were still in the Village Hall. They are still here and an update on them will be requested from Chief Beeman.

Meeting Adjourned. Next meeting March 16, 2017.

Jeff Dryden, Mayor

Tammie Taggart, Admin. Assistant

COUNCIL VOTES:

	RC	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Helen Borland	P	Y	Y	Y2	Y	Y2	Y	Y	Y
Mike Clark	A								
Greg DiDonato	P	Y	Y1	Y1	Y	Y1	Y1	Y1	Y1
Kene Edwards	P	Y	Y	Y	Y1	Y	Y2	Y	N
Susan Edwards	P	Y2	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y2	Y2
Patty Johnson	P	Y1	Y2	Y	Y2	Y	Y	Y	Y